



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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WEATHER & CROPS

Week Ending: August 19, 2012

Number: 24

Released: August 20, 2012

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR AUGUST 19, 2012

Although most regions of the state received modest rainfall, which helped to improve crop conditions, some areas remained relatively dry, resulting in the depletion of soil moisture. Cooler temperatures have been appreciated by all. Days suitable for field work were 5.8. Many tobacco farmers are starting to get equipment and barns ready for the impending harvest, and in some areas harvest has already begun. Insects in soybeans continue to be an issue and producers have continued with scouting and spraying activities. There have been some reports of leaf spot and white mold in peanuts and producers have responded with fungicides treatments when necessary. Growers across the state are readying combines for corn harvest and in many areas, the harvest of corn silage has already commenced.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
August 19, 2012	8	33	55	4
August 12, 2012	5	32	58	5
August 5, 2012	18	31	50	1
July 29, 2012	19	32	48	1
July 22, 2012	14	35	48	3

SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
August 19, 2012	9	36	54	1
August 12, 2012	5	45	48	2
August 5, 2012	16	45	38	1
July 29, 2012	17	41	40	2
July 22, 2012	15	42	40	3

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**Virginia Cooperative Extension
Service**



Virginia Tech

Virginia Cooperative Extension
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Virginia State University



VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	7	17	34	38	4
Livestock	2	7	22	52	17
Hay, Other	11	22	31	31	5
Hay, Alfalfa	2	9	24	58	7
Corn	14	22	30	28	6
Soybeans	2	9	22	54	13
Tobacco, Flue-Cured	12	26	36	20	6
Tobacco, Burley	5	10	26	40	19
Tobacco, Dark Fire	30	33	24	12	1
Peanuts	0	0	7	62	31
Cotton	0	0	12	45	43
Apples, All	17	1	30	42	10
Grapes	0	1	8	78	13
Oats	0	0	31	63	6

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Silked	99	98	100	99
Corn Dough	90	85	85	83
Corn Dent	62	57	65	61
Corn Mature	24	NA	28	25
Corn Silage Harvested	60	54	44	38
Soybeans Blooming	86	74	82	84
Soybeans Setting Pods	46	39	52	55
Tobacco, Flue Harvested	23	17	21	28
Tobacco, Burley Harvested	5	2	14	10
Tobacco, Dark Fire Harvested	9	2	51	28
Peanuts Pegged	99	96	87	92
Cotton Setting Bolls	99	97	86	92
Cotton Bolls Opening	6	1	7	13
Apples, Summer Harvested	54	44	59	68
Apples, Fall Harvested	32	22	0	1
Peaches Harvested	75	70	72	75
Oats for Grain Harvested	57	24	NA	NA

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING August 19, 2012

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to Aug. 18	Mar. 1 to Aug. 18 normal	Last Week	Since Jun. 1	Jun. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	86	62	89	59	74	0	3057	2714	0.00	5.26	-4.85	20.66	-7.64
Norfolk	86	71	90	69	79	1	3504	2986	0.62	12.21	0.36	28.68	-1.50
Richmond	88	69	92	66	79	2	3421	2946	0.26	10.81	0.11	23.12	-5.42
Roanoke	85	64	88	60	74	-1	3227	NA	0.08	8.45	-1.37	22.94	-4.69
Wash/Dulles	87	66	93	63	77	2	3112	NA	0.45	6.27	-3.37	19.08	-7.42

* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

NORTHERN

FREDERICK (Jeanette Smith)

We have had mild temperatures this week, with scattered thunderstorms.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Tom Stanley)

Moderate temperatures and .75 inches of rain Sunday morning were good for all forage and row crops in the Rockbridge area. Corn is short but prospects for ear development have been very good thanks to recent regular rain shower events such as we had this week.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan D Poore)

A little moisture and milder temperatures have improved the conditions of crops this past week.

APPOMATTOX (Bruce Jones)

Dark tobacco farmers are getting equipment and barns ready for harvest. Some minor irrigation to tobacco continues. Farmers are anxiously awaiting rain, especially on the late soybeans. Many farmers are cleaning wheat seed for the upcoming planting season.

CHESTERFIELD (Joan D Poore)

Moisture and milder temperatures have improved the crop conditions this past week.

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Relatively dry conditions resulted in topsoil depletion during the week. The soybean crop needs rainfall. Some producers continued corn harvest, and overall yields continue to be poor. Farmers continued scouting soybeans for insects and many fields have been treated as a complex of stink bugs, corn earworms, and defoliating insects have been present in many fields.

(Eastern Continued)

KING WILLIAM (Laura Maxey)

Thunderstorms came through King William and King and Queen on Wednesday. It rained all day Sunday and Monday morning near central garage but less than 1/2 inch of rain was reported. Overall though, the upper parts of the counties have been really dry. Central and south-East parts of the counties are still dry but less stressed compared to the upper parts.

MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

Corn harvest has begun, though very little has been harvested. Yields are slightly below average so far. Soybeans look very good. Folks are scouting and making spray decisions for soybeans. Folks are also attending field days and making planting decisions for 2013.

SOUTHERN

CHARLOTTE (Bob Jones)

A drought declaration has been made by the county supervisors.

FRANKLIN (Cynthia Martel)

Hooray for rain. In Rocky Mount, Va I recorded almost 1 and 1/2 inches of rain from Sunday's storm. It was well needed across the state. It is going to be in the mid-80's this week which will help the soybeans and corn grow.

A lot of producers have been talking about cutting corn silage this week and several fields have already been chopped.

LUNENBURG (Lindy Tucker)

Tobacco pulling has been in full swing this past week. Dundas was a very busy place because of it. The corn is difficult to rate because we are missing a huge number of kernels. A small percentage of ears fully pollinated and/or developed. We had 1/4 inch or so rain yesterday and a little this morning, but really not enough to soak in well. Temperatures cooled some towards the end of the week. The soybeans look good, and the tobacco is holding on, with some loss in quality. Drought resolution has been passed in the county, although losses are not astronomical.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

SOUTHEASTERN

(Southeastern continued)

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia L. Gregg)

Rain helped green up some crops this week. Cooler temperatures have been appreciated as well. Producers are scouting crops, spraying as needed and getting equipment ready for harvest. Tobacco harvest and curing is on going for Flue Tobacco. Some corn is being harvested for silage but grain production is poor in addition to the plant itself being smaller.

SURRY (Glenn Slade)

Weekend rains varied from 2 to 4 inches and have most fields very wet. Sprays are going out for worms on soybeans and peanuts, with some peanuts being sprayed for leaf spot and white mold.

PRINCE GEORGE (Scott Reiter)

Corn earworm in soybeans has been the topic of the week. Scouting and spraying occurred all week. Growers are also readying combines for corn harvest as the crop starts to dry down.

SUSSEX (Kelvin Wells)

It has been a dry week as farmers are busy applying insecticides and fungicides to soybeans and the peanut crop. The cotton, peanut and soybean crop all look good.